

Kan. Cong. Dist. No. 4

Garner Shriver  
Form 10-300  
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:  
Kansas

COUNTY:  
Sedgwick

FOR NPS USE ONLY

|              |      |
|--------------|------|
| ENTRY NUMBER | DATE |
|--------------|------|

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Rock Island Depot

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
729 East Douglas

CITY OR TOWN:  
Wichita

|                 |               |                     |             |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------------|-------------|
| STATE<br>Kansas | CODE<br>67202 | COUNTY:<br>Sedgwick | CODE<br>173 |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------------|-------------|

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

| CATEGORY<br>(Check One)                                                                                                                                                                     | OWNERSHIP                                                                                                                                          | STATUS                                                                                                                                                   | ACCESSIBLE<br>TO THE PUBLIC                                                                                                                      |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> District<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building<br><input type="checkbox"/> Site<br><input type="checkbox"/> Structure<br><input type="checkbox"/> Object | <input type="checkbox"/> Public<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private<br><input type="checkbox"/> Both                                    | Public Acquisition:<br><input type="checkbox"/> In Process<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Being Considered                                       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied<br><input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied<br><input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work<br>in progress |
| PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial<br><input type="checkbox"/> Educational<br><input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Government<br><input type="checkbox"/> Industrial<br><input type="checkbox"/> Military<br><input type="checkbox"/> Museum | <input type="checkbox"/> Park<br><input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence<br><input type="checkbox"/> Religious<br><input type="checkbox"/> Scientific | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Comments              |

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad Company

STREET AND NUMBER:  
General Offices  
La Salle Street Station

CITY OR TOWN:  
Chicago

STATE:  
Illinois

CODE:  
60605

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:  
Register of Deeds

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Sedgwick County Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN:  
Wichita

STATE:  
Kansas

CODE:  
67202

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
NONE

DATE OF SURVEY:  
☐ Federal  
☐ State  
☐ County  
☐ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Kansas  
COUNTY: Sedgwick  
ENTRY NUMBER  
DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

# 7. DESCRIPTION

|           |                                    |                                               |                                          |                                                   |                                |                                    |
|-----------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| CONDITION | (Check One)                        |                                               |                                          |                                                   |                                |                                    |
|           | <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> Good                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated             | <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins | <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed |
|           | (Check One)                        |                                               |                                          | (Check One)                                       |                                |                                    |
|           | <input type="checkbox"/> Altered   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered | <input type="checkbox"/> Moved           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site |                                |                                    |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Rock Island Railroad station is a rectangular two-story building. It faces the tracks to the west and is approximately 130 feet long and 35 feet wide with an overall height of 25 feet.

The exterior walls are constructed of red brick laid in running bond and trimmed around the first floor windows and doors with rough hewn limestone.

The roof form is a steep pitched hip roof covered with asphalt shingles. The roof splits the building at the first floor line to provide a covered walkway around the structure. This roof is supported by large curved frame brackets. The roof over the second floor is accented by small gables over the second floor windows. The fluting in these metal-covered gables adds an embellishing touch to the east and west facades. A simple cornice separates the roof from the wall below. A brick corbel at the roof line provides decorative treatment and directly below the corbeling a terra cotta design pattern circumscribes the building. A simple brick chimney rises near the south end of the building.

The first floor windows and doors occur in large arched openings. These arches are constructed of rough hewn stone blocks and begin at the window sills. Windows on the second floor are simple rectangles with brick sills and heads.

The building's exterior is in obvious need of paint and repair. Part of the interior has been damaged by fire and closed off; the rest of the interior continues in use as the Rock Island's Wichita freight office.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



### 3. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Pre-Columbian

☐ 16th Century

☐ 18th Century

☐ 20th Century

☐ 15th Century

☐ 17th Century

☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

1887

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal

☐ Education

☐ Political

☐ Urban Planning

☐ Prehistoric

☐ Engineering

☐ Religion/Phi-

☐ Other (Specify)

☐ Historic

☐ Industry

losophy

☐ Agriculture

☐ Invention

☐ Science

☒ Architecture

☐ Landscape

☐ Sculpture

☐ Art

Architecture

☐ Social/Human-

☐ Commerce

☐ Literature

itarian

☐ Communications

☐ Military

☐ Theater

☐ Conservation

☐ Music

☒ Transportation

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Rock Island depot in Wichita was built by the Chicago, Kansas and Nebraska railway company in 1887, the same year that railroad entered the city. The Chicago, Kansas and Nebraska company had been organized in December, 1885, as a subsidiary of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific railroad company, which in July, 1890, took over all holdings of the Chicago, Kansas and Nebraska.

The Rock Island depot was designed by J. T. Long and built by A. R. Ling. Construction of the two-story brick building began sometime in the spring of 1887, and it was scheduled for completion by late October at an estimated cost of \$20,000. The building was used as both a freight and passenger station until the nearby union station was built in 1914; since then the depot has served for freight transportation only.

The depot is situated just east of the central city business district of Wichita for which comprehensive redevelopment planning is now underway. In relation to that planning, adaptive uses of the depot are now being explored by one of the city planning groups. Among the possibilities under consideration is that of a senior citizens' recreation center for the downtown area.

This structure has been a part of Wichita's transportation scene for 85 years. In addition, it is a good example of late nineteenth century Victorian railroad architecture.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Form 10-300a  
(Dec. 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

|                  |      |
|------------------|------|
| STATE            |      |
| Kansas           |      |
| COUNTY           |      |
| Sedgwick         |      |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY |      |
| ENTRY NUMBER     | DATE |
|                  |      |

(Number all entries)

9. Wichita Morning Eagle, October 2, 1952.  
Wichita Weekly Eagle, March 4, September 9, 16, 1887; January 27,  
February 3, July 13, 1888.  
Center City East Douglas Design Study, prepared by the Oblinger-  
Smith Corporation (Wichita, 1972).



## 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bentley, O. H., editor, History of Wichita and Sedgwick County, Kansas (Chicago, C. F. Cooper and Co., 1910), v. 1, pp. 247, 248.  
Eighth Annual Report of the Directors to the Stockholders of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railway Company (April 1, 1888), p. 11.  
 Gillespie, Frank K., editor, Wichita Journal of Commerce (Wichita, Wichita Board of Trade, 1887), p. 45.  
 Hayes, William Edward, Iron Road to Empire (n. p., 1953), pp. 114-116, 125, 126.  
The Western Trail (published by Rock Island Railroad), v. 8, no. 6 (June, 1889).

## 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

| LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES<br>DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY |                         |                         | O<br>R | LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES<br>DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY<br>OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES |                         |  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| CORNER                                                                           | LATITUDE                | LONGITUDE               |        | LATITUDE                                                                                                | LONGITUDE               |  |
|                                                                                  | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds |        | Degrees Minutes Seconds                                                                                 | Degrees Minutes Seconds |  |
| NW                                                                               | ° ' "                   | ° ' "                   |        | ° ' "                                                                                                   | ° ' "                   |  |
| NE                                                                               | ° ' "                   | ° ' "                   |        | 37° 41' 08"                                                                                             | 97° 19' 43"             |  |
| SE                                                                               | ° ' "                   | ° ' "                   |        |                                                                                                         |                         |  |
| SW                                                                               | ° ' "                   | ° ' "                   |        |                                                                                                         |                         |  |

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: One acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY  | CODE |
|--------|------|---------|------|
| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |
| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |
| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |

## 11. FORM PREPARED BY

|                                                                                        |                     |                  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| NAME AND TITLE: Richard Pankratz, Planner<br>Charles L. Hall, Architectural Consultant |                     | DATE             |
| ORGANIZATION: Kansas State Historical Society                                          |                     | December 7, 1972 |
| STREET AND NUMBER: 120 West Tenth Street                                               |                     |                  |
| CITY OR TOWN: Topeka                                                                   | STATE: Kansas 66612 | CODE: 20         |

## 12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

## NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☒

Name

Nyle H. Miller

Title Executive Director, Kansas  
State Historical Society

Date February 6, 1973

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date